

REMARKS

The foregoing Amendment and remarks which follow are responsive to the Restriction Requirement mailed March 11, 2003, in relation to the above-identified patent application. As a preliminary matter, submitted herewith for the Examiner's consideration are duly executed Power of Attorney documents transferring responsibility for the continued prosecution of the present application to the undersigned. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that all future correspondence rendered by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in relation to the present application be forwarded to the undersigned for handling.

In the subject Restriction Requirement, the Examiner requested that, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §121, Applicant elect one of eight (8) different species of the claimed invention for initial prosecution on the merits. The eight species identified by the Examiner correspond to Figures 2A-5B, respectively.

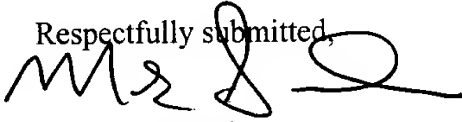
Responsive to the Restriction Requirement, Applicant hereby elects Species I shown in Figure 2A for initial prosecution on the merits. Consistent with this election, by this Amendment, Applicant has withdrawn Claims 5-7, 9, 10, 12-27 and 29 from consideration as each being directed to a non-elected species. Claims 1-4, 8, 11, 28 and 33-33 of those originally filed remaining in prosecution are each directed to the elected Species I. Of these, Claims 1 and 28 are independent in nature, and are generic in relation to Species I-IV shown in Figures 2A, 2B, 3A and 3B.

In addition to the foregoing, by this Amendment, Applicant has made clarifying changes to Claims 1-3, 8, 11, 28, 30 and 32. Claim 31 has been amended to make the same readable on the elected species. Additionally, new Claims 34-46 have been added into prosecution, and are each directed to the elected Species I shown in Figure 2A.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

Date: 4/7/03

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Respectfully submitted,

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